

1 SB114
2 203998-1
3 By Senator McClendon
4 RFD: Healthcare
5 First Read: 04-FEB-20

SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a certified registered nurse practitioner and a certified nurse midwife practice pursuant to a collaboration agreement with a physician pursuant to practice protocols provided by the Joint Committee of the Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing for Advance Practice Nurses. The joint committee is required to recommend rules establishing the ratio of physicians to certified registered nurse practitioners and certified nurse midwives.

This bill would delete this required rule recommendation. This bill would also specify that no limit would be placed on a patient's ability to select a certified registered nurse practitioner or a certified nurse midwife.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 Relating to health; to further provide for the
2 patient's ability to select a certified registered nurse or
3 certified nurse midwife as his or her designated health care
4 provider; and to amend Section 34-21-87, Code of Alabama 1975,
5 to remove the requirement that the joint committee recommend a
6 ratio of physicians to certified registered nurse
7 practitioners and certified nurse midwives in model practice
8 protocols.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

10 Section 1. (a) No limit shall be place on a
11 patient's ability to select a certified registered nurse
12 practitioner or certified nurse midwife, as his or her
13 designated health care provider when the care to be provided
14 is within the scope of practice of the collaboration agreement
15 between the collaborating physician and the certified
16 registered nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife.

17 (b) No limit shall be placed on the number of
18 certified registered nurse practitioners and certified nurse
19 midwives with whom a licensed Alabama physician may
20 collaborate.

21 (c) This section shall not be construed to expand
22 the scope of practice for any certified registered nurse
23 practitioner or certified nurse midwife.

24 Section 2. Section 34-21-87, Code of Alabama 1975,
25 is amended to read as follows:

26 "§34-21-87.

1 "Notwithstanding any other provisions of this
2 article, the joint committee shall recommend model practice
3 protocols to be used by certified registered nurse
4 practitioners and certified nurse midwives and a formulary of
5 legend drugs that may be prescribed by these advanced practice
6 nurses, subject to approval by both the State Board of Medical
7 Examiners and the Board of Nursing. The joint committee ~~shall~~
8 ~~also~~ may not recommend rules and regulations to establish the
9 ratio of physicians to certified registered nurse
10 practitioners and certified nurse midwives, ~~provided, however,~~
11 ~~that the rules and regulations shall not limit the ratio to~~
12 ~~less than two nurse practitioners or midwives to one physician~~
13 ~~or one certified registered nurse practitioner and one~~
14 ~~certified nurse midwife to one physician and shall provide for~~
15 ~~exceptions.~~ The joint committee shall ~~also~~ recommend rules and
16 ~~regulations~~ that establish the manner in which a collaborating
17 physician may designate a covering physician when temporarily
18 unavailable as the collaborating physician."

19 Section 3. This act shall become effective
20 immediately following its passage and approval by the
21 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.